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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Hideki MATSUDA et al.

Attorney Docket Number: 027667-00001

Serial Number: 10/527,318

Confirmation Number: 9560

Filed: March 10, 2005

Art Unit: 1742

For: MECHANICAL COMPONENT AND METHOD OF FABRICATING THE SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: March 16, 2006

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the information items listed on the attached PTO-SB08a. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each item is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the items be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application, OR (c) accompanies a Request for Continued Examination. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
- a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

c. Check number in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.

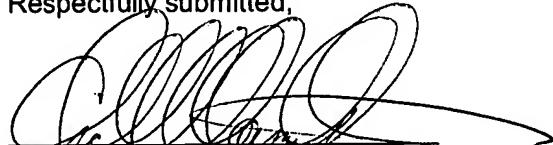
3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicants hereby petition that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check number in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.

a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

4. The references listed on the attached PTO-SB08a Form were cited during prosecution in a counterpart foreign application. References (JP 09 279295A, JP 07 018379A) were submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement of March 10, 2005. English language abstracts of the non-English language references are attached hereto. A copy of the U.S. Patent Reference is not enclosed in view of the recent changes in U.S. Patent rules.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Form PTO-SB08a, Supplementary European Search Report, References (3)



PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

Approved for use through 07/07/2006. GMB 0001-0001
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Form PTO/SB/08a

Sheet 1 of 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Form PTO/SB/08a		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	10/527,318
		Filing Date	March 10, 2005
		First Named Inventor	Hideki MATSUDA et al.
		Art Unit	1742
		Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	1
		Attorney Docket Number	
		027667-00001	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. ¹Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ²Unique citation designation number. ³See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ⁴Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code. ⁵For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁶Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁷Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached. AB indicates that only an English language abstract is attached.